

**TOWN OF WEBSTER**  
***Office of Selectmen***  
*945 Battle Street/Rte. 127*  
**Webster, NH 03303**

Webster Board of Selectmen's Meeting – April 23, 2009 – Recessed Session

7:05 P.M. Roll Call – Present: Chairman George Hashem, Selectman Thomas Mullins and Selectman David Klumb.

Chairman Mullins reconvened this meeting as a continuation of the April 20, 2009 Meeting.

Chairman Mullins addressed a policy change proposed by the Board (amended copy attached). Chairman Mullins read the policy as written. Selectman Klumb re-read the proposed policy for the public. Selectman Klumb made a motion to accept the policy as written; seconded by Selectman Hashem. Discussion was opened to the Board. After a short discussion by the Board, (discussion was not opened to the public) Selectman Klumb made a motion to amend the policy to add "If the Town has only two full-time officers, then a schedule of four 10-hour days for one officer and three 12-hour days for the second officer would be acceptable"; seconded by Selectman Hashem and approved. Selectman Klumb then made a motion to accept the amended policy; seconded by Selectman Hashem and approved.

Selectman Hashem made a motion to take \$2,222.11 for the tasers approved at the last meeting, out of the newly established Police Equipment Capital Reserve Fund; seconded by Selectman Klumb and approved by the Board and Police Chief Brian Milano.

Chief Milano presented two proposals for the "Police Budget 2009", one in the amount of \$139,608.65 and one in the amount of \$140,436. The first budget proposal of \$139,603.65, which would have required a transfer of \$7,460.35 from the Administrative Budget, as one full-time officer has been laid off. These funds would have come from the Personnel Administration and Insurance budget lines. The second proposal was using the budget amount given on Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup> for the Police Budget. Selectman Hashem agreed that there would be a savings in insurance and retirement, which Chairman Mullins noted he had already considered, but had an eye on those funds. The Board discussed the extra funds needed to fund the first budget proposal. Chairman Mullins asked Chief Milano what would happen if he stayed with Monday's budget figure. Chief Milano advised that he would still have to lay-off the second full-time officer at the end of October. The Board agreed they would go with the second budget proposed by the Chief. (\$140,436).

Public comments were taken at this point as follows:

Martin Bourque inquired about any allowance for part-time officers and the secretary, which Chief Milano advised there were no funds for these positions.

Geoff Martin inquired what Selectman Mullins meant earlier by stating he had an "eye on the money". Chairman Mullins indicated that he meant it was a cushion for budget needs. Mr. Martin wanted to follow-up on his question at previous meetings regarding proportionality of the budget cuts and allocations of funds. Chairman Mullins advised that the Board had put the funds allocated at the last meeting on an approximate 2 to 1 basis between Police and Fire, which Mr. Martin didn't agree to the proportion and still questioned the fairness. Mrs. Pinkham advised that the dispatch for the Fire Department was significantly higher than the Police, which might account for the appearance of being disproportional. Mr. Martin didn't feel that approximately was acceptable, feeling that there was a much greater disparity in the allocation. Chairman Mullins recommended that Mrs. Pinkham break down the figures for further review by Mr. Martin, noting that the Board still holds the sole discretion to allocate the funds.

Roger Becker inquired about the employment of the Police Lieutenant. Chairman Mullins advised that disbursement of the Police Budget is entirely Chief Milano's decision. He asked if the \$7,000 (discussed above in the first budget proposal) allowed for the Lieutenant to stay, which Chief Milano advised that it would. Selectman Mullins again said that the Board would review the budget in October, as nothing would be lost by waiting.

Bruce Johnson encouraged the Board to find the additional \$7,000 requested by the Chief in his first budget proposal. He agreed that he didn't think things were done proportionally or (the cuts) spread around enough between departments.

Sue McGinnis inquired as to who would do the taser training since Officer Killary was laid off. Chief Milano thought that Mr. Killary would do it at no cost to the Town. She also reminded people that she heard the Board say at the Town Meeting, that the cuts proposed would seriously affect Town services.

Mr. Johnson inquired about the \$12,000 proposed for Town Hall Maintenance. Selectman Klumb advised that that was taken out before the Town Meeting.

MJ Turcotte recommended the funds needed be put in now and revisited in October. Chairman Mullins said that Town Counsel had advised that if the Board moved funds (i.e. into the Police from Personnel Administration) they could not change

back at a later date. She again inquired as to whether there was any other way to change the budget, i.e. petition, legislation, donations and could donations be used for procuring contracted services, which the Board did not know at this time.

Chief Milano requested permission of the Board to lay-off his Secretary. Selectman Klumb made a motion to grant permission for the Chief to lay-off an employee; seconded by Selectman Hashem and approved. Chief Milano noted that the part-time officers worked at the will of the Chief and that no permission was needed for lay-offs.

The Board signed the following for Administrative Assistant Judith Jones:

- A Current Use Application for Robert and Loretta MacFadzen for Map 6-52-3-1;
- A Notice of Intent to Excavate for Gary Hillsgrove for Map 6-43;
- Timber Tax Levy and Warrant for three timber cuts;
- Purchase Order #13 for the Cemeteries to Carlisle Tree Service for stumping a tree at Riverdale in the amount of \$300;
- Purchase Order #14 for the Cemeteries to Ray Kimball for repairs to the Beaver Dam Cemetery fence in the amount of \$450;
- Purchase Order #15 for the Fire Department to Fire Tech & Safety of New England for a Forestry Pump in the amount of \$1,900 (1/2 of cost to be reimbursed from a grant); and
- One Veteran's Exemption re-verification.

Selectman Klumb made a motion to withdraw \$1,900 from the Forest Fire Expendable Trust established in 2007; seconded by Selectman Hashem and approved.

Mrs. Pinkham advised that when she had all the new budget numbers in place that a revised budget would be available. She advised that the Board had worked on the current budget for approximately seven months last year and recommended that all those in attendance to attend the budget meetings for the upcoming year.

8:00 P.M. Selectman Hashem made a motion to adjourn this meeting; seconded by Selectman Klumb and approved.

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Thomas S. Mullins  
BOS/jj

David E. Klumb

George K. Hashem